

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01623 170933Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 DHA-02 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 ( ISO ) W

----- 019145

P R 170929Z AUG 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6211

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1623

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, CH

SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE SITUATION UPDATE, AUGUST 17

REF: A) PEKING 1621, B) PEKING 1617, C) PEKING 1611

1. POPULATION'S MOVE BACK INDOORS BEGUN YESTERDAY (REF C) HAS CONTINUED TODAY, WITH MOST STREETS IN PEKING NOW CLEAR OF TEMPORARY SHELTERS. TENT CITIES REMAIN IN SOME PARKS AND ATHLETIC FIELDS, PERHAPS HOUSING FAMILIES WHOSE OWN HOUSES WILL HAVE TO BE REBUILT AND PERHAPS ALSO HOUSING SOME EVACUATED FROM TANGSHAN AREA. A FEW SCATTERED TENTS ARE STILL VISIBLE IN COURTYARDS. GENERALLY SPEAKING, HOWEVER, PEKING'S STREETS HAVE RETURNED TO PRE-QUAKE NORMALITY WITH AMAZING SPEED.

2. PEKING RAILROAD STATION BARRICADES HAVE BEEN PARTIALLY REMOVED. HSINCHIAO HOTEL, WHICH MAY HAVE SOME STRUCTURAL DAMAGE, HAS REOPENED ITS GROUND FLOOR DINING ROOM BUT IS OTHERWISE STILL CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

3. FIRST PRIORITY WITHIN PEKING NOW APPEARS TO BE REPAIR OF BUILDINGS WHICH SUFFERED DAMAGE DURING QUAKE. CONSTRUCTION WORKERS ARE APPARENTLY FULLY OCCUPIED WITH THIS TASK AND WITH ASSISTANCE TO DEVASTATED TANGSHAN AREA, AND RESUMPTION OF MOST NORMAL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

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(NEW APARTMENT BUILDINGS, FACTORIES, ETC.) MAY BE DELAYED

FOR SOME TIME YET.

4. SOME DIPLOMATS WHO HAD BEEN IN CANTON OVER LAST WEEKEND AND REACHED PEKING MONDAY EVENING (SUNDAY FLIGHT FROM CANTON WAS CANCELLED) SAID THEY HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF TREMORS OR AN EARTHQUAKE DRILL OR ALERT IN CANTON.

5. SEE REFTTEL A FOR INFORMATION ON AUGUST 16  
QUAKE IN WESTERN CHINA.  
GATES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATURAL DISASTERS, DISASTER REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 17 AUG 1976  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PEKING01623  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760315-0210  
**From:** PEKING  
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